Office Action Dated: October 28, 2005

Art Unit: 1751

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a medical cart or cage comprising:
dissolving a solid neutral or neutralizing rinse composition in water;
contacting the medical cart or cage with the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition at a temperature at or above ambient temperature;

contacting occurring in an apparatus configured for cleaning a medical cart or cage;

transporting the medical cart or cage through the entry of the apparatus comprising a door
or hanging plastic strips;

applying the rinse composition in a washing and rinsing station; drying the medical cart or cage in a drying station; dispensing the rinsing composition in the apparatus.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the solid-neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a solid neutral rinse composition comprising:

about 5 to about 40 wt-% urea;

about 60 to about 90 wt-% of one or more EO-PO block copolymer surfactants; and water to provide a water:urea weight ratio of about 1:3 to about 1:6[[;]]

and the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a dissolved neutral rinse composition.

- 44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the solid rinse composition comprises about 5 to about 15 % by weight urea.
- 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the solid rinse composition comprises about 80 to about 90 % by weight surfactant.

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- 46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the surfactant comprises a polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene glycol polymer.
- 47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the solid-neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a solid neutralizing rinse composition[[,]]

the solid rinse composition comprising:

about 1 to 25 wt-% of a nonionic block copolymer composition, having the formula: $(EO)_x (PO)_y (EO)_z$

with a molecular weight between 10,000 and 15,000,

wherein x is 30 to 130,

y is 30 to 70,

z is 30 to 130, and

x+y is ≥ 60 ,

having a cloud point, measured with a 1 wt-% aqueous solution, of greater than 100 °C;

about 1 to 25 wt-% of a defoamer composition; and

about 3 to 80 wt-% of a water soluble casting agent diluent[[;]]

and the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a dissolved neutralizing rinse composition.

- 48. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 47, wherein the casting agent comprises a polyalkylene glycol.
- 49. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 47, wherein the casting agent comprises a carbonate.
- 50. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 47, wherein the defoamer comprises a silicone defoamer.

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51. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a medical device or instrument; the medical device or instrument comprising tray, pan, holder, rack, forcep, scissor, shear, saw, hemostat, knife, chisel, rongeur, file, nipper, drill, drill bit, rasp, burr, spreader, breaker, elevator, clamp, needle holder, carriers, clip, hook, gouge, curette, retractor, straightener, punch, extractor, scoop, keratome, spatula, expressor, trocar, dilator, cage, glassware, tubing catheter, cannula, plug, stent, endoscope, endotracheal tube, anesthesia breathing circuit, cytoscope, arthoscope, or combination of thereof;

the method comprising:

dissolving a solid neutral or neutralizing rinse composition in water[[,]];
contacting the medical <u>device or instrument eart or eage</u> with the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition at a temperature at or above ambient temperature;

wherein the contacting occurs in a medical device or instrument cleaning apparatus having chambers;

transporting a basket containing the medical device or instrument through the chambers that include at least one chamber that houses the instruments during contacting.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the solid-neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a solid neutral rinse composition comprising:

about 5 to about 40 wt-% urea;

about 60 to about 90 wt-% of one or more EO-PO block copolymer surfactants; and water to provide a water:urea weight ratio of about 1:3 to about 1:6[[;]] and the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a dissolved neutral rinse composition.

- 53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the solid rinse composition comprises about 5 to about 15 % by weight urea.
- 54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the solid rinse composition comprises about 80 to about 90 % by weight surfactant.

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- 55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the surfactant comprises a polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene glycol polymer.
- 56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the solid-neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a solid neutralizing rinse composition[[,]]

the solid rinse composition comprising:

about 1 to 25 wt-% of a nonionic block copolymer composition, having the formula: $(EO)_x$ $(PO)_y$ $(EO)_z$

with a molecular weight between 10,000 and 15,000,

wherein x is 30 to 130,

y is 30 to 70,

z is 30 to 130, and

x+y is ≥ 60 ,

having a cloud point, measured with a 1 wt-% aqueous solution, of greater than 100 °C;

about 1 to 25 wt-% of a defoamer composition; and

about 3 to 80 wt-% of a water soluble casting agent diluent[[;]]

and the dissolved neutral or neutralizing rinse composition comprises a dissolved neutralizing rinse composition.

- 57. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 56, wherein the casting agent comprises a polyalkylene glycol.
- 58. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 56, wherein the casting agent comprises a carbonate.
- 59. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 56, wherein the defoamer comprises a silicone defoamer.